

1. A method for identifying a compound which affects the activity of JNK Protein Kinase characterized by its ability to phosphorylate the c-Jun N-terminal activation domain comprising:
  - a) incubating the compound and the kinase or a polynucleotide encoding the kinase, wherein the incubation is carried out under conditions sufficient to allow the components to interact; and
  - b) measuring the effect of the compound on the kinase or polynucleotide encoding the kinase.
2. A method for identifying a compound which affects the activity of a JNK protein kinase characterized by its ability to phosphorylate the c-Jun N-terminal activation domain comprising:
  - a) administering the compound to T cells expressing the kinase which are cultured under conditions sufficient to allow the components to interact; and
  - b) measuring the effect of the compound on the phosphorylated state of c-Jun.
3. A method of claim 2 whereby the compound is further assayed for its effect on the activated state of the T cells.
4. The method of claim 3 whereby the T cells are Jurkat cells.